

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena

January 1998

Location	Date	Time Local/ Standard	Path Length (Miles)	Path Width (Yards)	Number of Persons Killed	Number of Persons Injured	Estimated Damage Property	Estimated Damage Crops	Character of Storm
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INDIANA, Central

INZ022>023

Cass - Miami

06 1200EST
12 1200EST

0 0

Flood

MICHIGAN, West

MIZ077>078

Berrien - Cass

07 1700EST
08 1600EST

0 0

Winter Storm

A winter storm which tracked from the Gulf coast of Louisiana north across the Ohio River Valley region, then north across Michigan's Lower Peninsula, produced a wintry mix of snow, sleet, and freezing rain across the mentioned counties. Freezing rain first spread across the Holland, Grand Rapids, Ionia, and Lansing areas during the evening hours of Wednesday, January 7th, then expanded south to the Interstate-94 corridor as temperatures fell below freezing later that night. As colder air aloft moved south, freezing rain and sleet changed to snow from Berrien, Van Buren, Barry, Eaton and Ingham counties northward, resulting in storm total accumulations of around an inch in Berrien, Eaton, and Ingham counties and 2 to 6 inches elsewhere in the mentioned counties (with the exception of Cass County, where most problems were a result of freezing rain accumulation).

Areas hardest hit by the sleet and freezing rain Wednesday night and Thursday morning, January 7th and 8th respectively, included Barry, Calhoun, Clinton, Eaton, Gratiot, Ingham, and Kalamazoo counties. Ice accumulated up to one-quarter of an inch in these areas. Trees and power lines were downed under the weight of the glaze. Up to 4,000 customers lost power at the height of the storm. Icy roads were the cause of several serious accidents. Four fatalities were blamed on weather-related accidents. A 73 year-old male and 54 year-old female were killed in a collision which occurred near the intersection of Michigan Highway 57 and McClelland Road in Gratiot County at 12:25 PM EST on Thursday, January 8th. One other male suffered serious injuries in the same accident. In Calhoun County, a 55 year-old male Indiana truck driver was killed on Interstate-69 just south of Marshall and a 72 year-old male was killed on Michigan Highway 66 when his car was struck by an oncoming vehicle while he was pulling out of his driveway in Athens. Numerous minor accidents were reported during the Thursday morning rush hour across the Grand Rapids metropolitan area and also in Hastings in Barry County.

Snow fall reports from the storm included 5-6 inches across Ottawa a, Allegan, and Mason Counties, 4.3 inches in Muskegon, 3.7 inches in Grand Rapids, 3.5 inches in Sparta and Vestaburg, 2.8 inches in Big Rapids, around 2.5 inches in Lansing and Hastings, and around 2 inches in St. Johns and Ionia.

MIZ077>081

Berrien - Cass - St. Joseph - Branch - Hillsdale

22 1900EST
23 1000EST

0 0

Winter Storm

A winter storm tracked northeast from northern Alabama at 5:00 PM EST on Thursday, January 22nd, across western Kentucky and central Ohio overnight, and reached Lake Erie by midday on Friday, January 23rd. The storm spread a large swath of moderate to occasionally heavy snow across most of western, central, and southern portions of Michigan's Lower Peninsula from Thursday evening through mid-morning Friday, January 22nd-23rd. Snow first moved into the southern border counties of the state shortly after 7:00 PM EST on Thursday. Snow ended from southwest to northeast during the morning hours on Friday. Snow accumulations across the mentioned counties ranged from 3 to 6.5 inches, with 6 inch or greater amounts concentrated in Ingham and Jackson counties.

Most major highways and roads became snow-covered during the storm and travel conditions were hazardous from late Thursday evening through the Friday morning rush hour. Numerous weather-related minor accidents were reported across the region. Many local school districts were closed because of road conditions on Friday, January 23rd.

Snow fall reports included 6.5 inches in Dansville and 6.0 inches in Stockbridge, both in eastern Ingham County, 5.5 inches in Jackson, 5.2 inches in Allegan, 5.0 inches in Lansing, Hastings, and Reed City, 4-5 inches reported in the Grand Rapids-Muskegon-Holland metropolitan area, and around 4 inches in Kalamazoo, Battle Creek, St. Joseph and Hillsdale.

OHIO, North

Henry County
Countywide

09 0015EST
0200EST

0 0

Flood

Heavy thunderstorm rain on already saturated ground caused flooding of small streams, streets and low lying areas. On Hillman-Ford Road in Morral (Marion County), the driver of a school bus attempted to drive through high water from the Little Scioto River. The bus slid into a ditch but the more than 30 students and bus driver were rescued from the precariously tilted vehicle.

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					Killed	Injured	Property	Crops	

OHIO, North

Henry County Countywide

13 0000EST
16 0300EST

0 4

Glaze

A combination of occasional rain, freezing rain, sleet and snow , particularly on Tuesday the 13th, caused icy roads, bridges, sidewalks and other exposed surfaces. Many schools were closed. Hospital emergency rooms treated numerous ice related injuries (mostly from slips and falls). Even salt trucks had trouble negotiating the icy roads - at least two of them tipped over. This event did not meet winter storm criteria.

OHIO, Southwest

OHZ016

Putnam

08 2300EST
10 1300EST

0 0

Flood

From 1 to 3 inches of rain fell across West-Central Ohio on the 7th and 8th causing the Blanchard River at Ottawa to overflow its banks. The river crested at 25.0 feet on the 9th around noon EST causing some agricultural land to be flooded. Flood stage is 23.0 feet.